What is claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration comprising a δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor in an absorption enhancing carrier medium comprising:

(a) a lipophilic component;

(b) a high HLB surfactant; and

(c) a hydrophilic component;

which composition upon admixing forms a stable microemulsion preconcentrate.

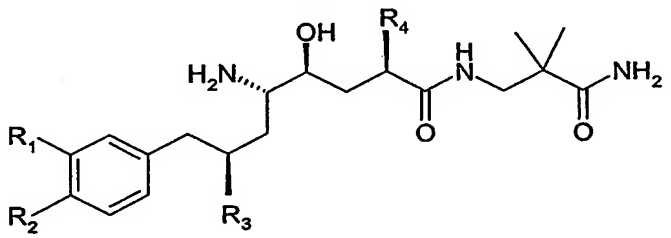
2. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1, wherein the lipophilic component comprises a low HLB surfactant.

3. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 2, wherein the lipophilic component comprises a low HLB surfactant which is a based on a medium or a long chain fatty acid, or a mixture of fatty acids thereof, and an oil which is a medium or a long chain fatty acid triglyceride, or a mixture of triglycerides thereof.

4. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 3, wherein the lipophilic component comprises a low HLB surfactant which is based on a medium chain fatty acid, or a mixture of fatty acids thereof, and an oil which is a medium chain fatty acid triglyceride, or a mixture of triglycerides thereof.

5. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 4, wherein the microemulsion preconcentrate is in the form of a water-in-oil microemulsion which upon administration or dilution with an aqueous medium spontaneously converts to an oil-in-water microemulsion.

6. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 4, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor has the formula



(I)

wherein R_1 is C_{1-4}alkoxy-C_{1-4}alkoxy or C_{1-4}alkoxy-C_{1-4}alkyl; R_2 is C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-4}alkoxy; and R_3 and R_4 are independently branched C_{3-4}alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor is a compound of formula (I) wherein R_1 is 3-methoxypropoxy; R_2 is methoxy; and R_3 and R_4 are isopropyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 7, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor is (2S,4S,5S,7S)-5-amino-4-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-7-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-8-methyl-nonanoic acid (2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propyl)-amide hemifumarate.

9. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 8, wherein the microemulsion preconcentrate is in the form of a water-in-oil microemulsion which upon administration or dilution with an aqueous medium spontaneously converts to an oil-in-water microemulsion.

10. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the medium chain fatty acids of the lipophilic component have from 8 to 12 carbon atoms.

11. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 10, wherein the oil is selected from propylene glycol di-caprylate/caprate and glyceryl tri-caprylate/caprate.

12. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the low HLB surfactant has an HLB value ranging from about 2.5 to about 6.

13. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the high HLB surfactant has an HLB value ranging from about 13 to about 20.

14. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 13, wherein the high HLB surfactant is selected from polysorbat 80, macrogol-15 hydroxystearate, vitamin E-TPGS and polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil.

15. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the hydrophilic phase comprises PEG 300.

16. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15, wherein the medium chain fatty acids of the lipophilic component have from 8 to 12 carbon atoms.

17. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the low HLB surfactant has an HLB value ranging from about 2.5 to about 6.

18. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 17, wherein the high HLB surfactant has an HLB value ranging from about 13 to about 20.

19. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 18, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor is a compound of formula (I) wherein R_1 is 3-methoxypropoxy; R_2 is methoxy; and R_3 and R_4 are isopropyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the oil is selected from propylene glycol di-caprylate/caprate and glyceryl tri-caprylate/caprate.

21. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the high HLB surfactant is selected from polysorbat 80, macrogol-15 hydroxystearate, vitamin E-TPGS and polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil.

22. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor is (2S,4S,5S,7S)-5-amino-4-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-7-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-8-methyl-nonanoic acid (2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propyl)-amide hemifumarate.

23. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 22, wherein the oil is selected from propylene glycol di-caprylate/caprate and glyceryl tri-caprylate/caprate.

24. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 23, wherein the high HLB surfactant is selected from polysorbat 80, macrogol-15 hydroxystearate, vitamin E-TPGS and polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil.

25. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 24, wherein the microemulsion preconcentrate is in the form of a water-in-oil microemulsion which upon administration or dilution with an aqueous medium spontaneously converts to an oil-in-water microemulsion.

26. A method for the treatment of hypertension; congestive heart failure, cardiac hypertrophy, cardiac fibrosis, cardiomyopathy postinfarction, complications resulting from diabetes, such as nephropathy, vasculopathy and neuropathy, diseases of the coronary vessels, restenosis following angioplasty, raised intra-ocular pressure, glaucoma, abnormal vascular growth, hyperaldosteronism, anxiety states and cognitive disorders which method comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1-24 or 25 to a patient in need thereof.

27. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1-24 or 25, for use as medicament.

28. Use of a pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1-24 or 25, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of conditions associated with renin activity.